California GARDEN

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1998 Volume 89 No. 6 $1.50

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

NOV. 2

PALOMAR DISTRICT DESIGN FORUM Floral Design Program by J.R. from Escondido. Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church, 17010 Pomerado Road/R.B. Road. 12:30-3:30PM $35 Series, $8 Door. 760/749-1920

NOV. 3, 10, 17, AND 24

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Contemporary Flower Arranging for Intermediate to Advanced Students. Tuesdays, 9:30AM-2:30PM Casa del Prado, Room 104. Instructor: Velma West. See page 181.

NOV. 7-8

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB Annual Plant Sale. Vons Mkt, Bernardo Center Drive, R.B. Sat. 9AM-4PM. Sun. 9AM-2PM 760/741-0829

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN FOUNDATION Chrysanthemum Show & Sale. 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-4:30PM. 310/544-1948 $5.

NOV. 12-15

THE HUNTINGTON. Fall Plant Festival. 1151 Oxford Rd. San Marino. Thurs. & Fri. Noon-4:30PM. Sat. & Sun. 10:30AM-4:30PM. 626/405-2141. Admission fee. (Sales all days in parking area, free)

NOV. 14

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY San Diego Chapter. California Native Plant Sale. Sat. 10AM-2PM. (or until plants are sold). 9:15AM Pre-sale for members. Casa del Prado outer courtyard. (619) 685-7321.

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB Harvest Plant & Bake Sale. Lucky Market on Mission. Sat. 8AM-2PM. 760/723-4119

NOV. 22

SUMI-E PAINTING SHOW & IKEBANA ART DISPLAY. Flower arrangements by OHARA, SOGETSU, SHOGYOKU Schools of Ikebana. Sun. 11AM-4PM. Casa del Prado, Rm.101 Balboa Park. 11AM opening ceremonies, 1-4PM demonstrations and shows.

NOV. 23

THE ARBORETUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY Thanksgiving centerpieces workshop. 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. 9AM-Noon. Call 626/447-8207. $25.

DEC. 1

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB. Annual Holiday Tea & Bazaar. 7776 Eads Ave. La Jolla. Tues. 12:30-3PM. 619/551-8672. $5 donation. Program: La Jolla Renaissance Singers. Tea, sandwichs, and cookies served throughout afternoon. Unique items for holiday gifts.

DEC. 2

THE ARBORETUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Wreath making, 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Wed. 10AM-Noon. Call 626/447-8207. $25.

DEC. 4

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Annual Holiday Tea for members, affiliates, and workers. Casa del Prado, Room 101, 3:30PM-4:45pm.

DEC. 4-5

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Annual Holiday Show "Old Time California Holidays," Fri.and Sat 5-9PM officially open for Christmas on the Prado. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. 232-5762. Free.

DEC. 7

PALOMAR DISTRICT DESIGN FORUM Floral Design Program by Robert Gordon from San Luis Obispo. See Nov. 2nd for details.

DEC. 9 and 16

THE ARBORETUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Holiday Decorating. Wed. 9AM-Noon. 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Call 626/447-8207. $50.

JAN. 4

PALOMAR DISTRICT DESIGN FORUM Floral Design Program by Brenda Parsons from England. See Nov. 2nd for details.

BALBOA PARK: ONGOING PROGRAMS

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Closed temporarily for construction.

SAT. OFFSHOOT TOURS 1Hr. Meet Botanical Lath House, 10AM. Until Nov. 21, resume Jan. 9. 235-1121. Free.

ZORO GARDEN NATURE PROGRAM Balboa Park, between R.H. Fleet Science Ctr. and Casa de Balboa. For programs, call 232-1121.

Deadline for submission to HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for Jan./Feb. issue is Nov. 15. SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations.

J. Roman and J. Coleman substituting for Jean E. Johns.

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FRONT COVER illustration by Alfred C. Hottes is of *Turraea obtusifolia* (star bush). This is an evergreen shrub, which grows slowly to 3-5 feet tall, perhaps 4 feet wide. White flowers bloom most of year, including into winter.

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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

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Gleanings . . .

CHOOSING POINSETTIAS . . .
Poinsettias are the nation's number-one-selling potted plant and most of them are purchased during November and December. The part one considers the flower is a modified leaf called a bract. The real flower is the tiny yellow or green berry-like structures in the middle of the bracts. Be sure they are tight, brightly colored, and fresh looking. The foliage should be dark green and dense down to the soil line. Do not purchase a plant that is in a paper or plastic sleeve. These sleeves are for shipping and the leaves and bracts will be damaged if left in one for too long.

When you bring the plant home, place it in an area where it will receive bright natural light for about six hours a day. Do not place it near a heat source or in a draft. The highest temperature should be about 72°F. and the lowest about 60°F.

New plants are being developed; everyone has remarked upon the lasting period of many plants purchased in 1997. The bracts and the leaves remained on the plant well into early summer. No one is sure whether it is a new variety or because of El Niño.

CHILIES . . .
During the holiday season we are seeing more decorations using gorgeous dried red chile peppers. They do seem more appropriate here than cranberries. It is known that during the 1800s southwestern residents used tiny dried red chilies interspersed with popcorn for chains used to decorate trees.

In New Mexico and Arizona, swags and wreaths made of large dried chile peppers have been popular holiday decorations. They seem to fit in better than the decorations of greenery sprinkled with artificial snow.

Remember, if you are handling dried chilies for decorations, wash your hands. Be careful not to rub you eyes while working with the chilies. Capsaicinold, the chemical that makes chilies hot, is still there. In fact, thousand-year-old chilies found in South American tombs are still peppery.

HEALTHY AIR . . .
You will have healthier air in your home and office if you grow house plants. This is especially important during the winter. Research shows that plant-filled rooms have cleaner air and at least 50% fewer airborne molds and bacteria than rooms without plants.

It is recommended that at least one growing plant be placed within six feet of one's head to improve the air one breathes. A six-foot cube around an individual is called a "personal breathing area", and the closer the plant, the healthier the air. It is suggested that a plant be placed on the desk, on a table beside the TV viewing chair, and beside the head of the bed. Recommended plants are bamboos, rubber plants, dracaenas, peace lilies, pothos, and Boston ferns. Short term flowering plants that are effective in purifying include chrysanthemums, azaleas, gerbera daisies, and cyclamens. All green plants can survive on less light than flowering plants.

The leaves do the purifying job by removing formaldehyde, acetone, and other toxins when air is taken in during the process of photosynthesis. To work effectively the leaves must be kept clean. They can be washed with a wet cloth—do not clean with oils or waxes. It also helps to clean the whole plant by removing it to the bathtub, sink, or outdoors and hosing it off.

Isn't it nice that for a gift you can give something that not only beautifies the area but makes it healthier? (Low in calories, too.)

During the Victorian Period there was a belief that during the night a plant robbed the air of oxygen and it was very unhealthy to have a living plant in a bedroom or near an ill person in a hospital room. Surprisingly, this "old wives tale" still exists. It was even advised that one close the windows at night if there were trees nearby. Today people can be heard justifying the use of dusty artificial or dried flowers to decorate a room by saying that living plants are unhealthy. Numerous experiments have shown that living plants in a room make it a healthier environment.

Research was begun over twenty years ago by NASA in experiments to find ways to purify air for space travel.

TOMATO UPDATE . . .
About 95% of the nation's and 45% of the world's supply of processing tomatoes are grown in California. The usual price is about $50 a ton. Guess California can take credit for most of the pizza and spaghetti eaten in the country.

AN URBAN FOREST ADVENTURE: THE STORY OF SPRECKELS PARK IN CORONADO, PART I

BY SUZANNE R. HEAP

CORONADO, CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ARE proud of their trees. One needs only to drive over the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge to see the green canopy that is the "crown" of the Crown City of Coronado.

Coronado was not always the green "island." In fact, before 1884 it was a desolate and deserted wasteland inhabited by jack rabbits and coyotes. It is here that the urban forest story begins.

A jack rabbit hunting expedition brought two vacationers across San Diego Bay to this island peninsula. Much more happened that day than just the hunting of jack rabbits. Hampton L. Storey, co-founder of the Storey and Clark Piano Manufacturers of Chicago and his friend and fellow entrepreneur from Evansville, Indiana, Elisha S. Babcock, Jr. (who at thirty-five already sat on the boards of both a railroad and a telephone company) were both looking for a promising investment for some of their capital. They believed that morning that they found it there in the wasteland of sand and scrub.

With a few other investors, Storey and Babcock formed the Coronado Beach Company and purchased the island peninsula and North Island for $110,000. Their idea was to provide facilities first and then attract a population. Leaving North Island to the jack rabbits, they set about sub-dividing the island-like end of the peninsula into lots that could be auctioned for sale.

They made sure fresh water would be available. Three thousand feet of pipe were run under the bay to bring in fresh water. This water made it possible to go about the business of growing trees and plants. When two blocks on either side of Orange Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets were set aside for lawns and trees, the central Plaza Park—now Spreckels Park—was established. The Coronado Beach Company Botanical Gardens were also established and run by a horticulturist named F. W. Koeppen. This was also a nursery and provided many of the original trees and shrubs to the city. Early photos show many cypress, palms, peppers, eucalyptus, star (Norfolk Island) pines, Monterey pines, torrey pines, and citrus there.

Coronado Beach Island, as it was then called, was ready for its first land sale auction in December of 1886.

A TORREY PINE IS INCLUDED AMONG THESE TREES. Photograph by Betty Newton.

Money from the lot sales was used to begin construction of the Hotel del Coronado in November of 1887. In mid-1887 land values plunged as word came that the Santa Fe Railroad had changed the ending point of their new line from San Diego to Los Angeles. It was at this time that Claus Spreckels, the "Sugar King," decided to invest in Coronado. He did so by first lending money to Mr. Babcock so that he could finish building the hotel. Then in 1889, for a cost of $500,000, Spreckels purchased the holdings of Babcock, Storey, and the other investors in the Coronado Beach Company. He became sole owner of Coronado, North Island, the Hotel Del, the water system, and the ferry and trolley that had been established to bring guests from San Diego to Coronado and its hotel. It would not be long before the planting of Coronado's green canopy would begin in earnest. □

Suzanne R. Heap is a landscape and garden consultant, UCCE Master Gardener, and a past president of Crown Garden Club.

SISTERS OF THE OAKS©

BY PAT PAWLOWSKI

I CALLED IT "the fairy glen." It consisted of a stand of astounding oaks with a couple of willows thrown in, and running through that magical natural wonderland was a seasonal stream bed.

There was a small clearing in the middle of the glen; and as the sunlight poured into the clearing, it illuminated a huge beautiful butterfly, lazily gliding through a sunbeam.

The wings of the butterfly, fully three inches across, were velvety brown-black with a white vertical band and an orange patch bordered by black near the tip of each forewing. If butterflies can be called majestic, it was. It took my breath away.

We had been out looking for a house to live in. The house that came with the stand of oaks was not right, but the fairy glen was perfect. Too bad we couldn't pluck that magical place up by its roots and transport it to wherever we wanted.

Well, I could at least find out the name of that majestic butterfly.

As soon as we got home I looked up the butterfly in *The Butterflies of California* by Thomas and John Emmel. That gorgeous hunk of butterfly turned out to be a **California sister**, a butterfly of wild places, a butterfly of oak-studded hills and valleys.

Ever the butterfly gardener, I asked myself: How do I get the California sister, a.k.a. *Adelpha bredowii californica*, to visit my yard?

According to the above-mentioned book by the Emmels, I learned that "Adults often come to moisture, landing on damp sand or mud around lakes or along streams. Langston once observed them swarming on grape squeezings...."

But how could I get a sister to visit my garden, short of investing in a winery? On second thought, maybe not a bad idea anyway—but back to the sister.

Incidentally, here is a case where both boys and girls can be sisters. And speaking of males and females—here goes another description of the butterfly life cycle, and how certain stages in the life cycle are made possible only by the correct species of plant.

Feel free to nod off if you have heard all this before. There are four stages in a butterfly's life: egg, caterpillar, pupa, and adult butterfly. In the case of a California sister, you start life out as a tiny egg laid on the leaf of a canyon oak or related live oaks.

The leaves of canyon oaks and other live oaks are the only ones whose nutritional makeup can sustain you in the caterpillar, or larval stage. As a caterpillar you munch out on oak leaves until you reach several inches in length. Then it's time to turn into a pupa, or chrysalis. In this stage you become stiff, brown and shriveled—the image of a dead leaf. You hang around like this for a week or two. Inside your leafy sheath, a great thing is happening: **metamorphosis**.

Webster's Dictionary defines metamorphosis as "A transformation, as by supernatural means." Through the magic of metamorphosis you eventually wiggle out of your shell and show your new self to the world: A colorful, independent creature of the air. After some pumping up of your wings, you are ready to take off, searching for liquid sustenance and butterfly love.

BUTTERFLY REVELS

The California sister, according to various butterfly buffs, is attracted to water. It patrols pathways, and is often seen gliding around live oaks, its larval-food plant. As an adult, the sister receives nourishment from flower nectar and salt and mineral-laden fluids from mud.

In addition, it is a native butterfly, unlike some other species that have been accidentally introduced when exotic plants were imported from other countries.

Taking all the above into consideration, the butterfly garden believer will introduce into the garden the following elements: Sun, shelter, mud, and native plants.

SUN - If you are gardening underneath a patio cover, your shade plants may be having fun but butterfly attendance is probably down. Create an open area where the sunbeams and butterflies can play.

SHELTER - Butterflies like protected areas free from blustery winds. You might provide an enclosure hedged in by shrubs (scrub oak perhaps) or trees (live oaks if you have the space).

MUD - Beloved alike by small children and cocker spaniels, mud also provides excellent material for pies

and wrestling matches. However, its main purpose may be to provide liquid nutrients to butterflies like the California sister, who require additional salts and minerals in their diets. Groups of male butterflies of many species congregate on mud, perhaps in order to commiserate over their hard luck in locating friendly members of the opposite sex, as they siphon up nutrients (which brings to mind the behavior of certain other creatures).

To provide mud in the garden, leave a bare spot of ground and keep it moist by burying a big basin of dirt, and then watering the dirt luxuriously so that it holds moisture for an extended period.

NATIVE PLANTS - Here is the really fun part of it all: Plant native larval-food plants and nectar plants.

The primary larval-food plant of the sister is **canyon oak** (*Quercus chrysolepis*). Other acceptable plant species include live oaks such as **coast live oak**, also called California live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and shrub oaks, also known as scrub oaks (*Quercus dumosa*, *Quercus berberidifolia*, and several other species).

Don't worry if your yard is too small to handle a full-size oak tree; you can always grow a scrub oak. The size of scrub oaks is somewhat variable, depending on growing conditions, but at most a scrub oak will only get to be the size of a large shrub or small tree.

For over one year, I have had a scrub oak growing in an 18-inch container. It is doing fine—and is currently sporting extremely cute acorns.

There are lots of reasons to grow oaks besides providing larval-food for sister caterpillars. All kinds of oaks are wonderful to behold; if you are lucky enough to have an old oak on your property, you are truly blessed.

Oaks are invaluable in the xeriscape garden; scrub oaks provide erosion control. Birds roost and nest in oaks. Acorns, the fruit of the oak, provide food for birds such as woodpeckers, chickadees, plain titmice, towhees, and the ever-popular California quail. Acorns also nourish squirrels, deer, and other wildlife. And in the past, acorns were an important part of the diet of Native Americans. Last but not least, oaks—like trees in general—help to counteract some of the negative stuff that human beings may inflict on the environment.

If you are interested, there is much information about growing new oaks or taking care of old ones, and not enough space here to go into all that. You can visit a public library, consult a knowledgeable nurseryperson, drop into the San Diego Floral Association library or Natural History Museum bookstore.

In addition, there are two native plant sales in November: one sponsored by the California Native Plant Society (619-685-7321) will take place on November 14; the other sale, sponsored by the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club (760-741-0829) is on November 7 and 8.

Native plants that provide nectar/juices (some serve as larval-food plants, too) for butterflies include: Flat-top buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*); narrow-leaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*); monkey flower (*Mimulus* spp.); common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*); sunflower (*Helianthus* spp.); goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.); wild lilac (*Ceanothus* spp.); California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*); cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*); and desert wild grape (*Vitis girdiana*).

BUTTERFLY REVELATIONS

Hallelujah! as they say.

I recently discovered, through a butterfly gardening friend, that California sisters will visit gardens. My friend's place in Escondido is a marvel of sunny spaces and friendly trees, and is replete with moisture and beautiful blooming flowers. She has one oak tree, about three feet tall (but cute as a button).

Just recently she was rewarded with the sight of a sister in the garden. She knows a sister when she sees one, since she has a vacation cabin surrounded by oaks, and had seen the species there, too. And now she has seen one in her garden in Escondido!

So it goes to show: Provide the proper conditions and the right plants, and the butterflies will come. Therefore, brothers and sisters, it's time to have a little faith in whatever good thing you believe in, and get out there and garden. □

California sister photograph by Robert Parks.
Text copyright by Pat Pawlowski, who is a writer/lecturer and the wildlife garden designer for Animated Gardens.

Coast live oak at top, Engelmann oak at bottom.
Photograph by Betty Newton.

WELCOME TO MY GARDEN!

BY MARIANNE TRUBY

FOR MANY YEARS, FLOWER SHOWS have been one of the main ways we have used to update and inform the public of "what's new" in the gardening world. While not exactly a newcomer in the area of informing the would-be and interested gardener, the idea of using private gardens as fund-raisers has shown great merit and is an addition to our learning experiences.

In the spring of 1998, I attended one of these, a fund-raiser sponsored by the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club for the Native Landscapes Botanical Garden at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Tickets are purchased in advance and at that time you are given a map showing the location of each garden with a brief history of the garden and the hours it is open. You are free to follow your own itinerary and timetable. Open gardens I have visited in the past were usually primarily devoted to roses, and the opportunity to see areas that included many great varieties and specimens of mature plants in established growing sites is an experience I recommend!

One of particular interest was of a recently completed home that had been landscaped with an "instant" garden. Mature plants in cans and instant growing lawn material had been laid in place. The mature plants of drought-tolerant and native origin had been used to take advantage of the natural terrain. Using the natural stone of the area to enhance the beauty of the California landscape was emphasized and the riparian-like landscape suggested waterways even though they were dry beds.

All of these homes were located in or near the Poway, Rancho Bernardo area and were on above-average-size grounds.

At another home, a large garden in an older neighborhood with beautiful mature trees displayed a love of all things—birds, orchids, roses, bonsai, natives, vegetables, a shade garden, and a pond. We were greeted with a beautiful macadamia tree in full bloom.

Throughout the area, pride of Madeira was in full bloom with its magnificent masses of heavenly blue. This is one of the many large shrubs and/or flowering trees that are doing a remarkable job in these areas, where their large size is an asset. Instead of fencing or high walls, the use of shrubs and trees to maintain or to suggest boundaries is used for privacy as well as beauty. All the plant materials displayed exceptional size and beauty thanks in part to our winter rains. The cleanliness of the plants sparkled in the sunlight each showing off their notable blooms and foliage.

Another home was a composite of all facets of gardening. The garden would have been called English garden by some, but to me it was rather a true example of Southern California gardening, a year-around garden planted with shrubs and plants special to California, though they may have originated elsewhere. Plants commonly found in our nurseries were well displayed in this garden. The opportunity to evaluate these growing plants and to consider how they could be used in your own garden was a treat. The superb rose garden collection was interspersed with perennials, all identified and showing a selection of classic varieties grown and known in California. A chicken coop provided rich material for the well-hidden but very efficient compost area, a vegetable garden was fenced off from patio view and enclosed by a screen of beautiful trees and shrubs. Off to one side was a beautifully landscaped pond area. A love of nature, gardens, and the outdoors were reflected throughout this home. This was truly a flower show at its best. We each could judge the growing specimens in their own environment in settings impossible to achieve by any show committee.

A Del Mar walking tour, plant and craft sale was a few weeks later and a new experience of a different sort. All homes viewed were within sight of the

Pacific Ocean at levels and in locations you might find confined after the earlier show. Here you parked your car, paying close attention to the suggested parking problems and walked using a map of the open gardens. The locations were on the hillsides and the well prepared wore suitable walking shoes.

All of these gardens were well established and breathtaking in their beauty—not only were the gardens breathtaking, but the views of the Pacific on this perfect day were a crowning glory. Along the alleyways,each beautiful in its own way, the morning glory plants of heavenly blue abounded. These back ways were as interesting and beautiful as the gardens. Many of these homes belonged to well-known garden writers and growers. It was an exceptional opportunity to visit their gardens. While much smaller than those seen in the Poway area, every nook and cranny is used to best advantage and flowers predominate.

Visiting these open gardens will inspire any visitor with the wonders of the plant materials available to us in Southern California, and it should be noted that gardening is a year-around affair here, and that includes MAINTENANCE.

Funds collected are used for garden projects of the Del Mar Garden Club, such as the Del Mar Post Office and the Del Mar City Hall.□

Photographs by the author.
Marianne Truby has lived and gardened at her home in Chula Vista since 1955.

FALL-WINTER COLOR FROM NATIVES IN THE LANDSCAPE

BY BETTY NEWTON

IN YOUR LANDSCAPE or garden, you may want color throughout the year. Color-wise, April through June take care of themselves, but after that, color in the garden becomes a very deliberate matter. The gardener will think of a plant that blooms at another time of the year, find it and plant it. If continuous color is the goal, then plants that bloom anytime between late June and February are desirable.

Obviously, beautiful gardens *can* be made using the variety of colors coming from plant foliage alone: yellow-green and medium green, dark green and blue-green, and blue-gray and gray. Several plants have brown and bronze leaves, which can be part of a subtler color scheme, and we can include the colors of earth, boulders, and paving stones.

Just as a painter comes to see clouds more clearly through his or her efforts to capture them on canvas, gardeners expand what they see as they stretch to see all the colors available in plants. Then we strive to combine them artistically.

You can start your education with a small notebook and a walk through a nursery. There you

Heteromeles arbutifolia, toyon

notice yellow-green *Sedum confusum* and the copper-red new growth on *Xylosma, Photinia fraseri,* and *Ternstroemia*. If these names mean nothing to you, you can add them to your vocabulary as you read the nursery labels.

Some native plants show colors other than green in winter—some of them quite noticeably. And people *are* using native plants in their gardens. It will take years to gather the expertise to use natives to best advantage. Lenz and Dourley's *California Native Trees and Shrubs* is the best source I know, to be combined with your own sleuthing.

I will get to those plants in a minute.

Here is what I have seen done wrong in incorporating natives. It seems a mistake to put natives around the house and a rose garden out by the street. It looks incongruous, discordant. With natives, even with the excellent drought-resistant shrubs we have been introduced to, we are learning a new aesthetic.

Roland Hoyt advised in *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions* that wilder-looking plants be used farther from the house. That is sensible, still, some gardeners these days are brave and will turn their front and back yards over to natives. The neighbors *will* wonder.

From Cynthia Carlson-Brunetti (Quinta Helena Garden in Dulzura) we have learned that natives grow taller than you may have in mind. From Riverside's Landscape Southern California Style demonstration garden, we have learned you can throw yourself into a native garden just as any other. You can trim, open up, and replant experimentally to your heart's content. Point Loma's Native Plant Reserve at Collier Park and Lake Hodge's Native Plant Society's 5-acre Nativescapes at the Wild Animal Park are two other places to learn.

With two native plants sales in November, plus those at nurseries, you may be able to find and use the charming and popular winter-blooming manzanita 'Howard McMinn'. In the interior, partial shade is desirable. This shrub brings little, pink, waxy, urn-shaped bells in winter on a five-by-five-foot plant with marvelous red-brown wood. Let it star in soil covered by its own dropped mulch and an edging of medium-sized rocks.

You know toyon, or California holly. That is *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, a *big* shrub, somewhere between 7 and 18 feet tall, depending on how much water it gets. Toyon has 3½-inch elliptical leaves with serrated edges. The red berries of winter bring birds. This can make a hedge or a screen. It may be watered in summer occasionally, and not die.

Already selling well for home gardens is California fuchsia, which is a low (2 feet), gray-leaved spreader that blooms red-orange each fall. California fuchsia is *aggressive*! Blue and gray might provide attractive company. With this native consider using dwarf plumbago (*Ceratostigma*), blue fescue grass, and buff and maroon, textured rocks.

Fourth and last is a yellow flowering plant blooming in the mountains. The one pictured is on a slope beside the road on the east side of Highway 79, between Descanso and Lake Cuyamaca.

This is autumn goldenbush, *Ericameria arborescens* ssp. *parishii*. [Ed. note: It is known by some other names, two of which are *Haplopappus parishii* and *E. parishii.]* Fortunately, when a friend identified a relative of the goldenbush in our backyard years ago, it was in the genus *Haplopappus*. He said it bloomed every autumn, but that there was a showier one in the mountains. In my mind, *Haplopappus* became *the Happy Greek*. That was easy to remember.

I do not know that this plant, 4 feet here, is adapted to gardens. However, many people are building now in Descanso, Jamul, and Ramona, more interior locations, and they may find they can use it. I suspect they will grow it from collected seed.

The attractive natives that can bring color over the cooler months are out there. You just have to reach out and learn about them, and then try them. □

Betty Newton teaches gardening classes at Grossmont Adult Schools and writes for the Sunday ***San Diego Union-Tribune****. Photographs by the author. (below) Handsome autumn goldenbush.*

THUNBERGIA BATTISCOMBEI

BY MARGE HOWARD-JONES

LOOPING ALONG THE GROUND below heliconias, palms, and a towering jacaranda, the *Thunbergia battiscombei* at Quail Botanical Gardens is not easy to spot in the fall and winter. But come spring, its intense blue-purple blossoms are sure to catch your eye as you approach the Lower Pond from the Upper Waterfall. Native to parts of Central and Southern Africa, Madagascar, and Asia, it has become a popular ornamental in the tropics and southern sections of the United States. Although its botanical "cousins," *T. alata* (black-eyed Susan vine) and *T. gregorii* (orange clock vine) clamber with abandon over trellises, walls, and even other shrubs, this member of the Acanthaceae prefers filtered light or shade where its 4-inch leaves seldom rise to more than a foot above the ground. It easily layers in rich soil, but propagation also can be accomplished by seed or cuttings of young growth. Or, it can be purchased at Buena Creek Nursery in San Marcos.

Thunbergia battiscombei

Thunbergias are named for Carl Peter Thunberg, a Swedish botanist who started out studying medicine at the University of Uppsala in 1761. Here he came under the influence of Carl Linnaeus, and after graduation he was commissioned to collect Japanese garden plants as part of an East India Company expedition to that country. Several years later, in 1775, he was able to exchange his medical knowledge for other Japanese species. It was then that he returned with such now-popular species as Japanese maple, weigela, and such "Japonicas" as *Deutzia, Kerria,* and *Eriobotrya* (loquat).

Meanwhile, he had gone to South Africa in 1772, learning the language and botanizing on the Cape Peninsula. Occasionally, accompanied by Francis Masson of Kew Gardens, he collected some 3,000 plants, a third of which were new to European botanists.

After his second trip to Asia, he returned to London to examine various collections and herberia. By 1779 he was back at the university in Uppsala where he performed botanical demonstrations and wrote an account of his travels and descriptions of his collections. In 1784 the university appointed him to a chair in medicine and botany, which he occupied until his death in 1822. In addition to the genus *Thunbergia*, many other species bear the epithet "*thunbergii*" in his honor. □

Photograph by Dr. Stu Scherr.

Marge Howard-Jones is a former docent at Quail Botanical Garden, reviews books for this magazine, and has written a history of Carlsbad, California.

PLUMERIA

BY CARL HERZOG

THE PLUMERIA GENUS IS a member of the Apocynaceae, which includes the Amsonia (*Amsonia*) Oleander (*Nerium*), Periwinkle (*Vinca*), Natal plum (*Carissa*), Frangipani (*Plumeria*), Yellow oleander (*Thevetia*), Crepe-jasmine (*Ervatamia*), and Chilean jasmine (*Mandevilla*). Many members of this family are poisonous when vegetative parts are eaten.

The *Plumeria* was named after the French botanist Charles Plumier. In the seventeenth century, he was appointed by the King of France to make voyages to the Caribbean. From his drawings and notes, his countryman and fellow botanist, Tournefort, named the genus after him.

Frangipani (*Plumeria*) is native of tropical America, which includes Mexico, Central America, Venezuela, and the islands of the Caribbean. The French-speaking people of the West Indies call it "frangipani" from the French word meaning coagulated milk. In the Hawaiian Islands, Philippine Islands, and some Caribbean Islands, it is planted in graveyards and is known as the "Graveyard Tree." The *Plumeria* was introduced to Hawaii in 1860, and is now used to make the traditional lei. It has taken several generations of Hawaiians to overcome the relationship with graveyards before it could become popular as the lei flower. The islanders now call it "Pau Melia."

SPECIES

Plumeria inodora	— Columbia; British Guiana
Plumeria pudica	— Colombia; Venezuela; Martinique
Plumeria rubra	— Central America
Plumeria subsessilis	— Hispaniola
Plumeria obtusa	— Bahama Islands; Cuba; Jamaica; Hispaniola; Puerto Rico; locally in Yucatan and British Honduras
Plumeria filifolia	— Cuba
Plumeria alba	— Puerto Rico; Virgin Islands; Lesser Antilles.

COMMON NAMES

Aztec	Cacaloxochitl
Australia	Dead Man's Fingers
Brazil	Jasmin de Cayenne
Central America	Amapola de Vevus
Dominican Republic	Aleli
French Guiana	Frangigpaner
Guatemala	Flor de la Cruz
Haiti	Frangipani; Frangipanier
Hawaii	Pumeli or Melia
India	Temple tree, Pagoda Tree
Indonesia	Kamboja
Java	Semboja
Mexico	Suchil, Crow-Flower
Nicaragua	Flor de pan
Philippines	Kalachuchi
Puerto Rico	Paucipan
Southern China	Egg Flower
Salvador	Flor de Mayo
Trinidad	Frangipani
Venezuela	Amapola, Atapaimo
Yucatan	Flor de Mayo

PROPAGATION:

Plumerias can be propagated from seed, and from mature wood of one-year-old tip cuttings.

SEEDS:

Seeds take about eight months to mature on the plant.

Seeds will sprout vigorously in five to ten days under the proper conditions.

Seedlings will take three to four years to bloom. Seedlings will not bloom color true to the parent plant. Two methods for starting seeds are:

(1) Lay seeds flat on wet paper towels and apply bottom heat by means of an electric heat cable, or for a small operation, a light bulb (25 watts) can be used to maintain approximately 70°F. Then transfer the sprouted seeds into the starter pots. This method is usually adopted by the small scale grower or hobbyist, as it is more labor intensive, but you are assured of 100% sprouted seeds.

(2) Seeds also may be started in propagation flats by laying the seeds flat on a partially filled liner and covering them with ½ inch of light soil or perlite. While moisture is imbibed, seeds must be kept moist and should have bottom heat of approximately 70°F. Seeds that have been stored for a season should be tested for viability, by sampling and using the wet paper towel method.

On average you can expect a seedling to reach 6 inches in height in about 10 weeks. One-year-old seedlings will grow to 12 to 18 inches.

At the end of sixty to ninety days, or when plants are of sufficient size, transfer seedlings into #1 containers if the plants are going to be kept for the growing season. At this point the plants may be sold in 29.3-cubic-inch containers if so desired.

CUTTINGS:

Take one-year-old tip cuttings from mature wood, 12 to 18 inches long. Remove all the large leaves to reduce transpiration, leave the petiole [the stock or support that attaches the blade of a leaf to the stem] attached to the propagule [the shoot that you've cut off], cut the leaves about one inch from the point of attachment. Use a rooting hormone, preferably with a fungicide, on the proximal end [the one that you're going to put in the ground]. Place the cuttings in a cool dark place to callus, for ten days to one month. Cuttings can be kept for several months with no harm. When you are ready to plant, soak cuttings for five minutes in a rooting hormone (IBA) [indolebutyric acid] such as Dip 'N Grow®. (Always follow label instructions.) Place cuttings in a container of perlite to root. Rooting should take place in three to five weeks. Bottom heat of 70°F. should be provided. Place rooted cuttings in containers large enough to support them, stake and tie, use a well draining soil. Use water sparingly, but keep moist. **Do not over water.** Place in full or lightly filtered sunlight. It will take three to five weeks for the roots to stabilize the plant.

Cuttings will bloom true to the parent plant and will usually bloom the first season.

FERTILIZATION AND IRRIGATION:

Nutrient requirements for plumerias are not complex. A fertilizer low in nitrogen and high in phosphorus, with ample potash and balanced trace elements, especially iron and magnesium is ideal.

High nitrogen will cause plumerias to grow too tall and out of shape. I have found that a water soluble fertilizer, Grow More 10-52-10 works very well in a fertigation system. I use a weak solution, 0.01%, every time I water. May to August, once a month, I use a pelletized 12-12-12-with trace elements. Use 1 tablespoon per inch of trunk diameter.

A simple drip irrigation system will be used to fertigate the plants. It will be ½-inch poly tubing and ⅛-inch poly feeders with emitters. The cost of the irrigation system, labor, and water will be determined at the time when the plants are set out in the field.

Water in the production of the plants is dependant on the location, container size, and soil makeup. Plumerias like water but do not like standing water, so care must be taken to provide adequate drainage.

Do Not Over Water!

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS:

The plumeria is a unique tree among plants. In climates with temperatures above 38°F., no winter protection is needed. In cold climates, below 38°F., it can be bare rooted and stored indoors; it must be protected from freezing. Some desiccation of roots and branches will occur, so a light misting will not hurt the plant. In the spring the plumeria can be replanted and can have blooms in six to eight weeks. Plumerias grown in containers also will do well; while size of the plant can be controlled, it will still flower profusely, provided edaphic [related to soil conditions rather than to physiographic or climate factors] factors are met.

Plumeria rubra

GRAFTING:

Plumerias can be grafted by using standard grafting techniques. The "Whip" or "Tongue" and "Patch or Budding" methods are commonly used. The main reason to graft a plumeria is to produce a rainbow tree or to overcome cultural problems associated with disease prone difficulties, such as black tip rot. *Plumeria obtusa* is one that is hard to root and subject to black tip rot.

Grafting will not speed up bloom production but it is used to reproduce exact color of the bloom.

" Tongue" graft;

Cut the scion in a "V" shape. Cut a similar but opposite "V" shape in the root stock. Being careful to keep the cut pieces clean, and to match the

PESTS AND DISEASES OF PLUMERIA

Pest and Disease	Symptom	Solution
Long horn Borer Grub of the longhorn beetle lives inside the stem and eats the plant from inside.	A small hole(s) in a side of a stalk with black ooze dripping out.	Cut the limb from the plant and destroy completely!
Spider Mites Tiny sucking insects.	Leaves may become mottled and tend to curl under. Small webs may be visible.	Forceful spray of water to affected area. Malathion, Orthene or insecticidal soap.
Whiteflies (Small) & (Giant) Sucking insects.	Whiteflies live on back sides of leaves. Honeydew secretions allow for sooty mold to grow. Silky hair grows from the colony.	Forceful spray of water to affected area, insecticidal soap. Micro fine horticultural Volck oil, Orthene or Malathion.
Thrips Small 1/8 inch insect with scraping mouthparts.	Flowers fail to open, and buds fall off. Excessive bleeding from tips especially overnight.	Orthene Malathion, or insecticidal soap.
Scale Insect that secrets a waxy shell over it's body. Sucks plant juices.	Small round to oval spots on stalks, tips or leaves.	If only a few, dab each with a cotton stick drenched with rubbing alcohol. Systemic insecticide.
Mealy Bugs Insect covered with white powdery wax, oval, 1/8 inch. Sucks plant juices.	Plants may become weak and covered with honeydew secretion of mealybugs.	If only a few, dab each with a cotton stick drenched with rubbing alcohol. Systemic insecticide.
Cutworms Larvae of moths.	Base of plant or leaves or flowers appear to be chewed or cut off.	Cardboard shields around base of plant. Diazinon or Dursban on soil.
Snails and Slugs Gastropods with rasping tongue.	Portions of the plant stem appear to have been chewed away. Slime trails near plant.	Diatomaceous earth near base of plants. Pick off by hand and destroy Snail and slug bait.
Black tip fungus **	Growing point turns black stopping further growth. Normally occurs only in spring.	Use fungicide early. If fungus persists, cut the tip back to clean wood.
Rust (coleosporium dominguense) And other fungus.	Reddish orange pustules on the underside of leaves.	Fungicide with *bayleton, or oxycarboxin. Broad spectrum fungicide. Remove infected leaves.
Powdery mildew Fungus	Whitish mold on leaves.	Increase air circulation. Broad spectrum fungicide.
Black sooty mold Fungus.	Black mold on leaves. Normally caused by secretions of aphids, whitefly or thrips.	Rid plant of pest (s). Eliminate ants as vectors Broad spectrum fungicide.

Always follow the manufactures label directions for all chemicals and use.

* Restricted chemical

** Stem rot may also have fly larvae in it

This table has been reprinted and updated from Plumeria care bulletin Vol.1 No. 2 September, 1991

cambium layers, join the pieces. Place splints around the graft union. Use grafting tape to support the graft. Seal the area with a grafting compound. The graft should take in about four weeks.

"Whip" graft;

The whip graft is the same as the tongue graft, except a single diagonal cut is used.

"Patch or Budding;"

Cut the tip of the donor plant. Allow the new buds to swell to a point just before leaves begin to appear. Using a cork borer or similar budding tool, cut a 1- to 1.5-cm. area around the donor bud. Cut the exact size area on the plant to be budded. Remove the bud from the donor plant and place it on the receptor plant, pay close attention to the orientation of the bud (**plumeria leaf scars are smiles not frowns**). Wrap tightly with grafting tape or para film. The new bud should take in three to four weeks. When the new bud takes, cut off the branch above the new bud allowing all the energy to go to the new graft. This will now be the dominant tip.

PESTS AND DISEASES:

Plumerias are subject to a stem rot. This is usually caused by an injury to the plant or too much water during dormancy. The common fly larva has been found in the stem where rot has occurred.

(See table on Pests and Diseases on page 174.)□

Drawing after Mary Anne Kunkel.

Carl Herzog has two thousand plumeria plants, from sixteen years to three months in age. He and his wife Joy are working on growing a shorter plant with more branches and a good flower. You can make an appointment to see them at En-Joy Plumerias by calling 619/443-4795.

Sources:

Taxonomy of Vascular Plants. By George H.M. Lawrence. Macmillan Publishing NY.

The Exotic Plumeria. By Elizabeth H. Thornton and Sharon H. Thornton. Published by Plumeria Specialties, Texas

The Handbook on Plumeria Culture. Second edition. By Richard M. and Mary Helen Eggenberger. Published by Tropical Plant Specialists # 88-092641

INTERNET:

http://www.ruf.rice.edy/~miltonp/plumeria
http://www.io.com/~jrm

THE DORIS WOOD COTTAGE GARDEN AND NURSERY

The Doris Wood Cottage Garden & Nursery is a one acre, "English-style" perennial garden. Paths wind through rose covered arbors and rose bordered walks. An original "canvas" of flowering plants and shrubs greets the eye at every turn. Pale yellow Scabiosa, bicolor Salvia and a rare, pink Chaste Tree are among the thousands of plants in the garden.

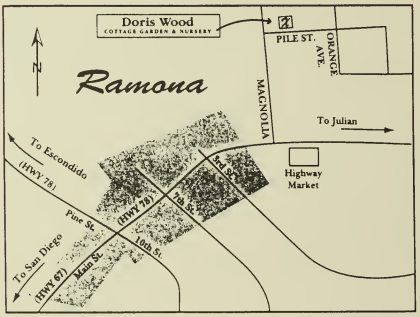
A small nursery adjacent to the garden specializes in English Roses,™ antique roses and select perennials/shrubs.

Hours

9:00 am - till sundown Sat & Sun, or by appointment. Open Friday through Monday during the month of July.

Admission

Admission is free. A donation box is located in the garden; proceeds help maintain the garden.



We are located 30 miles northeast of San Diego and 15 miles southeast of Escondido. The Community of Ramona has many interesting stores and restaurants to explore and enjoy.

Information
(760) 789-1543
744 Pile Street
Ramona, CA 92065

Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND *CALIFORNIA GARDEN* STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS
Helen La Gamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREVENT extreme differences between night and day temperatures.

TO KEEP the plants well groomed and repot those that have outgrown their pots. A good rule—the pot should be 1⅓ times the diameter of the leaf span.

TO CONTINUE to have good circulation of air around the plants.

TO PROVIDE adequate humidity; monitor the temperature carefully.

TO PLAN on using your plants with holiday decorations; plant in containers to match color scheme.

BEGONIAS
Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN up all debris—remove dead leaves and spent blooms.

TO WATER as needed.

TO PUT a top dressing of your favorite mulch around plants to replace any soil or mulch washed away by fall rains.

TO GIVE a light feeding several times a month to help the plants withstand any adverse conditions a little better.

TO SPRAY for mildew control.

TO ALLOW tuberous begonias to die back on their own; put aside and let rest, but sprinkle occasionally.

TO BE VIGILANT for insects; spray for mealybugs and other pests.

BONSAI
San Diego Bonsai Club

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REDUCE watering, deciduous trees require just enough to keep them from drying out.

TO MOVE plants into shade if a hot spell occurs. Avoid a second growth period during this time—it will weaken the trees.

TO REFRAIN from fertilizing or transplanting at this time.

TO KEEP deciduous trees protected from sudden changes of temperature.

TO REMOVE any old leaves, fruit, or seeds from deciduous trees.

TO PRUNE black pines by cutting the candles about half length.

TO GRAFT conifers in December.

BROMELIADS
Mary Siemers

NOW IS THE TIME

TO STOP fertilizing during fall and winter months, except those that are kept in a greenhouse.

TO REDUCE the frequency of watering when weather turns cooler.

TO PROTECT your plants from hail damage during the rainy season by providing overhead protection such as shadecloth that will allow plenty of light.

TO PROTECT plants from freezing temperatures by covering with sheets or newspaper.

TO KEEP plants clean by cutting spent blooms and dead leaves with scissors.

TO SPACE plants apart to allow air circulation. This helps to prevent scale.

CACTI & SUCCULENTS
Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH your plants. Most cacti and succulents have a dormancy period. Depending on the weather, many winter growers may start early growing.

TO FERTILIZE the plants that are actively growing.

TO WATER only in the morning on a day that is going to be warm. By doing this, no standing water will be on plants in the evening.

TO PROTECT tender plants from excessive cold and winter rains. Repair cracks and leaks in shelters before the rains arrive.

TO KEEP ants under control; they transport aphids and mealybugs.

TO REMEMBER that when plants become too cold during the cold evenings the growth of fungi and bacteria can be fostered.

TO START looking for winter growing succulents to add as an extra dimension to your collection.

TO **CLEAN** up your plants' growing area.

CAMELLIAS

Les Baskerville

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED with a 2-10-10 or 0-10-10 fertilizer to encourage bud development, once a month.

TO CONTINUE disbudding to produce larger blooms.

TO PICK up all old blooms to prevent petal blight.

TO SELECT new plants while in bloom.

TO ENCOURAGE plants to have dark green leaves by feeding an iron supplement.

TO SPRAY if necessary for mites and worms.

TO KEEP a regular watering schedule, never let a plant dry out—maintain an even, moist condition.

TO MAINTAIN humidity—on any dry, hot days mist in later afternoon to keep from burning leaves.

DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WITHHOLD water and fertilizer to let the plants go dormant.

TO ALLOW plants to dry—when brown about 12 inches from ground, cut off the stalk.

TO LEAVE tubers in the ground to harden off if there is good drainage. Otherwise lift roots before the heavy rains.

TO WASH clumps after digging, let dry a few hours before storing. If dividing tubers, treat cut area with soil sulfur, store in vermiculite, sand, or other medium. Store out of the weather. Be sure tubers are tagged before storing.

EPIPHYLLUMS

San Diego Epiphyllum Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WITHHOLD fertilizer, especially one with nitrogen. Allow the plants to become semi-dormant.

TO WATER sparingly, but do not allow plants to dry out completely.

TO PROTECT plants from exposure to the elements. Frost, hail, and strong winds can cause irreversible damage. Overexposure to harsh winter sunlight can be as detrimental as hot summer sun.

TO TIE or stake long branches so they will not break when winds and rain arrive.

TO CHECK for snails and slugs; a few granules of Sluggeta at the base of the plant are often effective and leave little to no residue.

TO MAINTAIN good grooming and prune out nonproductive branches to conserve plant energy.

FERNS

San Diego Fern Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CHECK containers to ensure planting mix has not completely broken down; add more mix to containers that need it.

TO BE ALERT for insects. Slugs and snails are very active.

TO WATER if it does not rain. Check plants not reached by rain.

TO APPLY a weak fertilizer solution once more before the December rest period.

TO PLANT spores and keep in a warm area.

TO CLEAN out weeds, oxalis, and debris from pots.

TO PROTECT plants at night in frost areas. Cover with newspaper or old sheets or place in garage.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PRUNE deciduous trees and vines after their foliage has dropped. Wait until early spring to prune evergreens.

TO SPRAY dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil to kill scale, insects, spider mites, and other overwintering pests.

TO SPRAY peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) to control leaf curl.

TO ORDER bare-root trees and vines to plant in December or January.

TO PROVIDE frost protection for young citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.

FUCHSIAS

William Selby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ALLOW plants to rest; reduce or stop fertilizing.

TO DO heavy pruning in mild areas or in a greenhouse. Can make cuttings if a good tip available.

TO CLEAN up. Remove all dead leaves, blossoms, and debris from pots and baskets and around plants in the ground.

TO WATCH for insects, molds and fungi in warmer areas.

TO MULCH plants left outside in areas where there is danger of frost; move baskets under cover for protection.

GERANIUMS (Pelargoniums)

Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Watering will not need to be done as often as in the warmer seasons. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep the foliage as dry as possible. Commercial plants grown in (coir) coconut

fiber should be watered less often than plants in conventional planter mix.

TO CONTINUE feeding as needed. Do not allow plants to show prolonged signs of nutritional deficiencies. Use a balanced fertilizer which can be dissolved in water.

TO CONTINUE a pest control and disease prevention program, using all products according to the manufacturer's direction.

TO PRUNE any plants which have not been cut back. At least one green leaf should remain on every stem of regals, scenteds, and similar types. Lanky plants which were pruned in the fall can be cut again to produce compact plants.

TO MAKE cuttings from the prunings. Shelter cuttings from extreme weather. They will root faster in a warm location.

TO PINCH the rest of the plants which were pruned in the fall.

TO GIVE plants temporary shelter if the temperature approaches freezing.

TO ROTATE plants on a regular basis in order to keep well shaped.

GREEN THUMB

Editorial Staff

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED bird of paradise. Cut out dead growth from clumps to improve appearance.

TO PLANT bulbs for spring blooms—daffodils, narcissus, ranunculus, anemones, scillas, callas, tulips, and hyacinths.

TO PRUNE and shape holly and pyracantha when cutting berries for holiday decorations.

TO APPLY dormant spray in December to control pests and disease next year; to use snail and slug bait regularly.

TO ENRICH your soil, prepare now for bare-root planting in late December and January.

HERBS

Terry Tucker Hinkley

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CONTINUE pinching herbs back, harvesting the cuttings for winter use and gifts.

TO DRY herbs in bunches upside down or on a screen in a warm dry location.

TO START making potpourri from your dried and store-bought herbs, as well as sachets, bouquets garnis, fines herbs, and other herbal holiday gifts from the garden.

TO WATER again in the late afternoon as necessary during hot dry spells.

TO BEGIN preparing winter indoor herbs by potting up cuttings in kitchen window sized containers, keeping soil damp and humidifying during hot weather.

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN beds of dead leaves and weeds; aphids winter-over in debris-filled areas.

TO SPRAY for aphids or give a light feeding of a systemic to control all sucking plant pests.

TO MAKE a final planting of bearded types, spurias, Louisianas, and Siberians.

TO PLANT bulbous type iris—Dutch, English, and Spanish for spring bloom.

TO MOVE and replant Pacific Coast natives in late December when the little white roots are showing. Water well until they are established.

NATIVE PLANTS

Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ATTEND plant sales of native plants.

TO PLANT natives to take advantage of our, often meager, rainfall to encourage the plants to develop a strong root system. When spring comes, plants push top growth, and we want a strong enough root system to support it.

TO MAKE SURE that your site for the most drought tolerant of the natives is well drained, suitable as to sun or shade, and free of weeds.

TO DIG the hole twice as deep and twice as wide as the can your plant is from. Backfill with 50% native soil and 50% amendments, such as Nitrohumus.

TO PLANT *Salvia, Artemisia, Encelia, Penstemon,* and other easy genera. *Ceanothus* can be a bit trickier as can *Romneya, Trichostema, Fremontodendron,* and *Dendromecon* and should be added after you have gained more experience. This will prevent some of the disappointments of first time native plant gardeners.

TO WRITE to me at annashummingbird@netscape.net — if you have a specific question and have an E-mail address. Sorry, I do not do telephone calls.

ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED a dilute solution of 30-10-10 fertilizer to intergenetic *Oncidium* hybrids, *Brassidium, Miltonia* if they are planted in bark. If they are grown in any other medium, feed a solution of 18-18-18. (The numbers reflect a guideline, not hard and fast numbers.)

TO FEED *Cymbidium* a 30-20-20 fertilizer. Stake new spikes—do not rotate plants. Protect buds and flowers from hail, rain, or sun damage.

TO REPOT *Cattleya* if new growth is outside of the pot and the plant is in active growth. (Otherwise, wait until spring.) Feed an 18-18-18 fertilizer, or similar, during the winter and only every third watering.

TO CLEAN up old leaves, flowers, and other "trash" in growing areas. Remove shadecloth to give as much light as possible to the common growing areas. Clean the swamp cooler; drain the water out of the bottom; protect the motor by wrapping it with a plastic trash bag after you have oiled it and checked the belts and cords.

TO CLEAN humidity spray nozzles. Remove nozzles from feed line, loosen the brass parts and take apart. Soak these parts in a glass container with a solution of ten parts water to one part swimming pool acid (*e.g.*, phosphoric, muriatic), using protective gloves and goggles. Or use pure vinegar, which works well but is slower. Through the glass container you will see when the parts are clean; rinse them with clear water and reinstall, after flushing the feed lines.

TO CHECK the heater fittings, pilot light, flues, and vents. Check that the temperature sensors and activators are set at their HI-LO settings. You must have a fresh inlet somewhere in the hothouse, for AIR. You need clean air for combustion in the heating chamber and to replace the air burned in combustion going up the flue to the outside of the hothouse. If you don't provide a clean air intake, you will have poor and unclean combustion and ethylene gas in the hothouse killing flowers.

TO LET deciduous *Dendrobium* go dormant. Stop feeding when leaves start to drop. Water just enough to maintain root moisture. (Start to fertilize and water normally next spring when buds have swollen and are starting to develop and plant is starting active growth.)

TO HAVE *Phalaenopsis* be well on their way in the flower initiation mode at this time. Increase light to about 1500 foot-candles by any means—shadecloth removal, etc. Try to duplicate the weather in the areas where phals are native (at this time of year the temperatures drop and it is very clear, cloudless, and relatively dry). You lowered the night temperature through October to 52-55 degrees while fertilizing with dilute solutions of 30-20-20 every other watering. In November, maintain the high light and increase the night temperature to 62-65 degrees (your target minimum temperature). The first week, water with clear water to flush all salts that may remain. The next three weeks, water with a solution of epsom salts, mixed 4 lbs. in 5 gals. water, applied through a Hozon proportioner. This gives the plants the magnesium sulfate they need for colorful flowers. The first week of December, flush again with clear water. The next three weeks, use a high phosphorus fertilizer to help flower production and plant turgidity. By January, you should be back to average care and fertilization. Try to maintain the high light until the temperatures get warmer, then drop the light to 1000± foot-candles until next year. Maintain air movement at all times.

ROSES

Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ASSESS your garden and prepare for planting newly arrived bareroots when they become available at your local nursery.

TO PREPARE list of replacement and/or new varieties you wish to purchase from lists of incoming bareroots available from mail order sources and your local nurseries. If you have limited space you may wish to put off purchasing newly introduced varieties until they have been grown in your locale.

TO ENJOY fall blooms that are frequently outstanding depending on weather conditions.

TO REDUCE amount of water but do not allow bushes to become too dry if fall rains do not occur.

TO REMOVE bushes no longer producing and prepare new planting holes by adding amendments and superphosphate to existing soil to give bareroots a good growing medium.

TO PRUNE floribundas in late December but delay pruning hybrid teas until buds begin to swell in January or early February. Consult rosarians in your locale for best date.

TO CLEAN up entire rose bed and dormant spray once before pruning and again after pruning before buds leaf out.

TO PREPARE for pruning by checking your equipment. Proper equipment, clean and sharp, will make the job easier. Don't forget the gloves and knee pads.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE and compost warm-season vegetables to prevent pests and diseases from overwintering on them.

TO CONTINUE planting cool-season vegetables which will not be subject to frost injury.

(continued on page 180)

COMMUNICATIONS . . .

WE WELCOME LETTERS PERTAINING TO GARDENS!

We request comments from readers who feel that we have provided incorrect information. The goal is to give readers the best gardening knowledge available.

ERRATUM

In the July-August 1998 issue, although his name was on the contents page, we neglected on page 106 to give credit to **Lit Phan** for the article "Vietnamese Perspective is Different."

("**NOW IS THE TIME**" continued from page 179)

VEGETABLES CONTINUED

TO PLANT seeds of short-day onions, such as 'Grano', 'Granex', or 'Crystal Wax', and garlic cloves in November for bulbs next summer.

TO PLANT dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus, and rhubarb. To avoid crown rot of rhubarb, plant crowns in containers filled with porous potting soil and transplant into garden where drainage is good after several leaves have developed.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS
from UC Cooperative Extension Publications

NOW IS ONE OF THE BETTER TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower — California natives, cineraria, columbine, fairy primrose (*Primula malacoides*), garden stock (*Matthiola incana)*, hollyhock, Iceland poppy, ornamental kale, pansy, pink sand verbena, pot marigold (*Calendula*), snapdragon, and viola.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: beets, carrots, chard, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onion (green and dry), parsnips, spinach, and turnips — baby blue eyes, California natives, candytuft, Chinese forget-me-not *(Cynoglossum amabile*), forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica*), lupine, sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*), spring flowering sweet pea, and Virginia stock (*Malcolmia maritima*).

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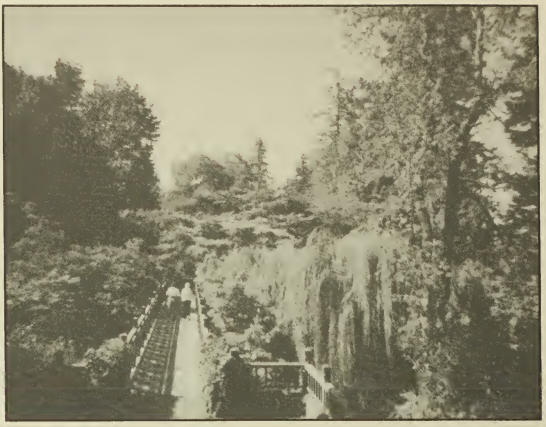
YOUR TRAVELING GARDENER IN PORTLAND, OREGON

BY ROBERT HORWITZ



Crystal Springs Rhododendron Gardens

WHEN WATER IS PLENTIFUL and the soil is rich, you can grow almost anything. This is pointed out vividly in the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Gardens in Portland. The 7-acre garden contains around 2500 rhododendron plants of all sizes and varieties. Each plant is individually identified by a clear marker, which is great for a gardener who does not have Northwest climate experience. You enter the gardens and walk across a wooden bridge that spans the inlet to a large lake that has wild ducks, Canadian geese, and lots of children along the bank feeding the birds. The lake's water comes from natural springs that bubble up near the entry to the lake. A waterfall splashes gently into the lake, which is totally clear. Not only are there rhododendrons, but many azaleas as well. Not many were in bloom at the time of year (August) I was there, however.

At one end of the bridge was a magnificent mimosa tree about 30 feet high, displaying a profusion of orange blossoms. At the foot of the tree were arranged many plants whose color when in bloom would contrast nicely with the mimosa blossoms.

Also in Portland are the Japanese Gardens, which are the most authentic and beautiful of their type I have ever seen. The authenticity comes because they were designed by the head of the Landscape Architecture Department of Tokyo Agriculture University. The gardens consist of a Strolling Pond Garden with pathways that zigzag through the immaculately pruned and maintained plants, which are set off in contrast with Japanese garden lanterns. Strolling on, one comes to the Tea Gardens containing the buildings where the tea ceremony can be performed. Then on to the Natural Garden, which has a path that winds down to ponds and waterfalls. Along the paths are lovely plants, mostly of Japanese origin with identification as thorough as those of the Rhododendron Gardens.

The Sand and Stone Garden is abstract in Japanese fashion with weathered stones set amid carefully swept pebbles whose patterns were made to resemble the sea.

The Flat Garden was the last on the way I walked. It is surrounded by large areas of swept sand with plantings arranged to resemble the pleasures of life, such as a cup of sake and wishes for the happiness of the viewer. I cannot overemphasize the absolute meticulousness of these gardens with not a twig or stone out of place. The gardens are surrounded by very tall trees that give them a sense of remoteness, although through the trees at one point you can get a good view of Mount Hood and the city of Portland. □

Photograph by the author.
Robert Horwitz is a retired aerospace engineer who gardens in the Point Loma section of San Diego.

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WHY I GARDEN

BY DARREL L. CHEELY

IT IS MIDNIGHT, the cusp between yesterday and tomorrow, and I am digging out crabgrass that has spread throughout a flower bed of the beautiful floribunda rose 'Sexy Rexy'. This flower bed includes the irises 'White Ruffles' and 'Beverly Sills', blue salvia, and a border of grape hyacinths. The iris and hyacinths make getting the stolens of the crabgrass out most difficult. The hyacinths keep popping out of the ground with the stolens, and I replant them as they do.

Portable halogen lights of a thousand candle power make this evening work possible. I frequently work at this time, as it is wonderful for reflection, introspection, and the testing of my commitment to gardening. Tonight is definitely a testing of that commitment. I created this infestation of crabgrass through the heavy use of horse manure as mulch. The lady who delivered it said her horse had eaten only alfalfa. Either she doesn't know her horse's eating habits as well as I wish she did, or she doesn't know the difference between alfalfa and crabgrass.

Within the last twenty minutes I have bent or broken three trowels. Unable to locate another, I discover that a twelve-inch cold chisel is a superb tool for this work. It is clearly labeled "Wear Goggles When Using;" it would be better labeled "Protect Hands With Chain Mail" for this task. (Seriously, if you try this, be careful!)

By 12:20AM, I can see progress and enter the reflective, introspective stage of this gardening venture. I think of *Dante's Inferno* and select a new title for my future autobiography, *The Garden as Metaphor for the Descent into Hell*. Crabgrass will play a major role on my descending path; I think Dante would have agreed. As I further reflect, a question formulates, "Why do I garden?"

I recall an old photograph of myself and my maternal grandmother taken in her garden in Laguna Beach. I am three years old, and stand beside her holding a tool that looks like a miniature of the standard shovel that she is holding in the photo. (We look a little like *American Gothic*.) My "shovel" is really a huge spoon that was used in the California Gold Rush camps. When my grandmother gave it to me, she said it was a shovel and that if I dug enough I would become a gardener. I must have believed her; I've been digging ever since.

So, firstly, I garden because my maternal grandmother gardened with a passion. I spent my first three years in her small Eden, and my life has been forever influenced by the aromas and textures I experienced there.

I garden, too, I know, for the struggle, for those times when I pit myself against the crabgrass, or the spurge, or the heat, or the snails, and grasshoppers. Sometimes I lose the battle, but never the war; sometimes I retreat, exhausted, and even lick my wounds. (Careful with that cold chisel.)

I garden also for the beauty I experience; the close-to-perfection rose or narcissus, or other blossom that greets me, often unexpectedly, in my early morning walks through the garden.

I garden for knowledge, both of myself and plants. I have learned some of my strengths and many of my weaknesses in the garden. (I'm still working on Patience and Humility.) I continue to learn about the vast array of flora with which I share this earth.

It is almost 1:00AM, and though I am winning the crabgrass battle, it is time to quit, for I am beginning to think I garden because I possess a gene for gardening. After all, didn't Mendel establish the science of genetics through the study of sweet peas, and I love sweet peas. In addition, I've just planted a small snail, mistaking it for a grape hyacinth bulb.

I put the cold chisel away and turn off the lights. In the darkness, I smell the freshly turned earth. I add a final reason for why I garden: because I *have to* garden. I've tried not gardening at some stages of my life. Once I ripped out all the roses and had nothing but grass. It didn't work, for there was an unfilled need until I started digging again.

I know she isn't here, but I speak to her anyway, "Goodnight, grandmother." □

Darrel L. Cheely is a retired elementary school principal, who has lived and gardened in Ramona for thirty-five years.

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AMARYLLIS

BY BARBARA S. JONES

THE AMARYLLIS (*HIPPEASTRUM*) IS one of the most attractive flowers that can be encouraged to bloom as a house plant during the winter season. They are very easy to grow and need warmth, light, and water. Many kits are sold as gift items during the holiday season and success is almost universally guaranteed. The gift box contains a 3½-inch diameter bulb, a bag of planting mix, and a square plastic pot. All one must do is to follow the directions and in a short time a sturdy flower stem and strap-like leaves come out of the top of the bulb. The stem extends to about a foot and soon the cluster of flower buds open into gorgeous, large trumpet-shaped flowers that will last about a month. Most of the packages have red flower bulbs.

Amaryllis bulbs are now for sale at garden stores and nurseries. A prime one can be six or more inches in diameter. You may feel they are a bit "pricey", but when you consider the size of the bloom cluster, the long blooming period, and the beauty, the bulb is really worth the price. Bulbs produce red, pink, tangerine, salmon, white, and bi-colored or striped flowers; and the more exotic, the more expensive. They are easy to grow indoors, and the best time to plant for Christmas bloom is in November.

Amaryllis like to be a bit pot-bound, so choose a container that is two or three inches larger in diameter than the bulb. Use a fast-draining soil and plant the bulb so that the soil level is at the largest diameter of the bulb. (At least half the bulb should be sticking out of the soil.) It needs direct sunlight part of the day. It should be watered well but water should not be allowed to stand in the saucer under the container. Once the leaves begin to show, fertilize with a diluted all-purpose fertilizer every two weeks.

The bulb can be saved to bloom again. After the flowers die, cut back the stem. Keep the plant in a warm, sunny location, and continue feeding and watering to fatten up the bulb. In September, stop watering the plant and put the pot in a dark place until November. (Carefully remove the leaves when they die back.) Then start the process all over.

If you plant the bulb out in the garden, you will find that it will bloom in the early spring.

Recently there have been hourglass-shaped containers available for forcing amaryllis bulbs in water in the same manner that hyacinths are forced. Two years ago I tried one. By the time the flower stem got big and fat and the buds were expanding, the bulb had shrunk until it was dropping through the neck and the bulb was down immersed in the water. I grabbed the stem and pulled it back into the top section every time I passed. I finally put toothpicks around the bulb (like one does with an avocado seed) but the weight of the bulb pulled it through the neck anyway. The next year I tried again. When I purchased a new bulb, I explained the problem to the salesperson-advisor. I was told to put floral clay (green plastic material used to hold needlepoint holders) around the container above the neck. It did not work—same problem. So now I use the container for a vase. It is lovely for a large bunch of flowers—I stick a handful of flowers in and they spread out beautifully. Incidentally, the bulbs I forced in water did not bloom the next year. □

Barbara Jones has been gardening in San Diego for over 60 years and writing for California Garden for 30 years.

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Book Reviews

THE ROSE BIBLE
Rayford Clayton Reddell
San Francisco, Chronicle Books, 1998, 258 pages, color throughout, 9¾" x 9¾", softcover, $24.95

This paperback contains what you need to know about roses: their history, their care, and prediction of roses of the future. I have no idea of the total number of books on roses existing today, but of those I have read, this certainly deserves a place at the top. Written by a rosarian whose information is based upon experience, and with the understanding that his opinions may not be shared by all but willing to accept this fact. At his rose ranch of four thousand bushes in Petaluma, California, he has developed his personal knowledge of roses and rosarians. Recognizing that in all things, even roses, there is favoritism, and this favoritism reflects "taste" as in food, clothing, and all other flowers.

Not only is the book beautifully produced with excellent color photos, properly named and evaluated as to growing habits, but it contains history of the evolution to modern roses (1867 to the present). A list of fifty immortal roses includes those readily available locally and well established in our San Diego gardens, frequently as the result of being the product of California hybridizers. While buying, planting, maintaining, harvesting, and pruning information is covered, additional pleasure will be derived from the sometimes amusing reflection by the author about present day efforts to direct us to particular cultivars and types. He also tells of his early rejection of "old" roses and the process by which he found a place for them in his domain.

Rather than the usual rose book based on growing conditions and cultivars grown abroad we welcome this listing of roses and growing conditions of most of the United States where the rose is the National Flower. I believe Mr. Reddell has earned the title of America's leading rosarian.

Reviewed by Marianne Truby

STALKING THE WILD AMARANTH: Gardening in the Age of Extinction
Janet Marinelli
New York, Henry Holt and Co., 1998, 238 pages, 6½" x 9½", line drawings, hardcover, $25

Every plant we choose to put in our gardens is an expression of how we feel about our garden, ourselves, our planet, and our place in the "great circle of life." This thoughtful book leads us through the many considerations in evolving the ethics of today's garden design. Ms. Marinelli presents historic and biologic backgrounds to create a solid basis on which to develop a new sense of what our gardens should do to ensure the future of the earth's threatened plants and ecosystems.

Ms. Marinelli found in looking at her suburban backyard that it was sterile. The grass was green, the plants were colorful, but there were few birds, butterflies, or other creatures to share the garden area. She soon realized that there would be more to recreating a natural ecosystem than merely adopting organic methods or limiting plant choices to native plants.

At least one third of the native plants in this country are either extinct or nearing extinction. Ms. Marinelli believes that the best way to protect these species is not to create purely native gardens, but to create gardens that work the same way nature intended, reestablishing a network of biological relationships between the plants, the animals, and ourselves. The author says "We nurture nature as nature nurtures us."

After reading this book, you may choose merely to incorporate a few nectar plants to encourage the butterflies and hummingbirds in your area. Or you may be inspired to re-create and regenerate a lost habitat, or better still, create a new functioning ecosystem. Indeed, this is the heart of her message. Gardeners have the opportunity to become environmental heroes by creating protected sites that will preserve horticultural diversity.

For those who believe that we touch one thing and it is connected around the world, this is a book to help us develop a new philosophy of responsible garden design.

Reviewed by Connie Beck

MAGICAL GARDENS: Myth, Mulch & Marigolds
Patricia Monaghan
St. Paul, Llewellyn Publications, 1997, 161 pages, 16 garden plans and other illustrations, 8½" x 10¾", softcover, $14.95

Earth and magic...myths and legends...ancient lore ...gardens are magic, and gardeners are magicians.

Magical gardening means becoming aware of traditions holding insights into the connection between self and earth, becoming conscious of the earth's special needs, and becoming knowledgeable about specific plants and techniques that lead to gardening success. In her engaging and unconventional new book, Patricia Monaghan calls these three components, "Myth, Mulch & Marigolds."

To become a magical gardener you must connect with inner inspiration through meditation and simple rituals that can deliberately and consciously intensify your spiritual connection to the land you cultivate, so that your outer life is brought into alignment with your inner one, and your garden begins to represent your creative, inner self.

Gardening rituals provide a framework and metaphoric context for personal self-analysis and growth. Gardens provide both context and metaphor for social connection and celebration, such as marking the passing of the seasons and the cycle of the

years. Magical gardening means consciously forging a connection with the earth, and using your garden to mark both seasonal changes and the changes in your life.

All the ingredients for your own kind of magic can be found in one of these delightfully enchanting gardens. Each of the sixteen garden plans includes an interesting tale and plants whose names or traditional uses reflect the themes that honor such mythic figures as Camelot, dragon, or fairy.

Specific plant and structure lists are offered for each garden plan, with easy to follow schematic drawings to help you create magical spaces that will enrich your senses and engage your imagination. Your magic garden will be a source of continuing inspiration, and one of your greatest teachers.

Reviewed by Joan K. Lacy

PARADISE BY DESIGN: Native Plants and the New American Landscape
Kathryn Phillips
New York, North Point Press, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998, 265 pages, 6¼" x 9¼", hardcover, $25

Can a bright young landscape designer, eager to demonstrate the social and ecological benefits of landscaping with native plants, succeed in the real world? Considering that budgets happen and clients change their minds, this skillful reportage of one such professional's adventures makes an absorbing story. Beginning with a "dream assignment" for a young family's home garden, the story expanded to take on the redesign of an asphalt and concrete industrial site and a park to be planted and maintained by volunteers. In each case, the designer strives to create natural settings that reflect the site's history and conditions. Clients are initially thrilled, then anxious, as plant promotions, nursery fads, and, most of all, mainstream designing (i.e., lawns, large shrubs, bedding plants, etc.) exert their influence. Along the way the author delves into the history of landscape designs and the work of growers and nursery proprietors.

Written in an easy narrative style, with many verbatim conversations between designer, client, and support personnel, this book provides important insights into both the need to create sustainable landscapes and the inherent challenges of what appears to some as a truly revolutionary concept.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

NATURAL ART FORMS
Karl Blossfeldt
New York, Dover Publications, 1998, 128 pages, 120 full page b&w photos, 8⅜" x 11¼", softcover, $10.95

This amazing collection of black and white photos of plant parts magnified up to twenty-five times their natural size was initially made to assist graphic and fine art students to make plant models. The precise reproduction of the grace and symmetry of flowers, seeds, pods, and other floral and foliage forms adds another dimension to our awareness of the wonders of nature. Presented in a full standard page format, they are copyright free and thus available for direct use in design work. Over-all patterns created by the magnification of clematis seeds, for instance, or the carved garland effect of a species of grass seed, magnified ten times, are as elegant as the work of any artist's hand.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

FLORA BRITANNICA: the Definitive New Guide to Wild Flowers, Plants, and Trees
Richard Mabey
North Pomfret, VT., Distributed by Trafalgar Square, 1998, 480 pages, approx. 500 color photos, 8¾" x 11¼", hardcover, $55

Native plants and exotics have naturalized on the beaches, moors, and byways of England, Scotland, and Wales and are interwoven with British folklore and social culture. Richard Mabey, a well-known writer of natural history, has collected thousands of personal reports of how plants and plant material have been traditionally used to honor and celebrate, feed and cure, work and play in Britain.

Organized by plant families, with species listed first by their common names and then botanical nomenclature, the book provides a history and recognized uses of each plant before diving into the wealth of lore and literature. Most of the stories of local festivals, children's games, folk medicine, etc. were contributed by people all over the country, as listed in the index at the end of the book. The accompanying photos are mostly of the wild sites...railroad and highway verges, power plants and other industrial environments, as well as forests, cliffsides, meadows, and moors.

Interspersed throughout the book are general descriptions of hedges, urban commons, churches and church yards, spring festivals, wild foods, and plant medicines. Also included is a dictionary of Scottish vernacular plant names, since they do seem to speak a different language over the border.

It's hard to say which is the most intriguing aspect of this book: the plant lore, the folk culture, or the amazing ability of so many different species to adapt to the natural conditions of what Shakespeare so truly described as "this precious Eden."

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

MAGIC OF IRISES
Barbara Perry Lawton
Golden, CO., Fulcrum Publishing, 1998, 206 pages, 84 color photos, 6 b&w illustrations, 8¾" x 10¼", hardcover, $39.95

In this book, "magic" refers to the beauty of the iris and the ease with which it can be grown. Lawton begins with iris lore and legends in history, art, medicine, and herbs. I was embarrassed to discover that fleur-de-lis refers to the iris and not the lily as I had long believed. Sections are divided by bearded, beardless, and bulbous. The bearded section is divided into six chapters: tall, medium, miniature, novelty, reblooming, and aril irises. The beardless are also divided in six chapters: Siberian, Pacific Coast, Louisiana, Spuria, Japanese, and Species. Three chapters on bulbous iris are: Xiphium, Scarpio, and Reticulata. The chapters on Pacific Coast and Louisiana Iris are especially good; the history of these American irises is more detailed than usually found in iris books. Plant health care includes information on pests and diseases and is followed by a chapter on vegetative propagation of irises.

Reviewed by R. Cox

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February 16, 1999
April 20, 1999
June 15, 1999
5:45 p.m.
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Pres: Mildred Digenan 443-1529
3rd Mon - 2:00 pm, Lakeside Historical
Church, 9906 Maine Avenue

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Pres: Alicia Elliott
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Pres: Haruko Crawford 660-2046

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2nd Sun - 11:00 am, Casa del Prado

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Nov & Dec ONLY, 3rd Wed

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4th Sun - 1:00 pm, Ecke Building
Quail Gardens

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2nd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

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